

GOVERNMENT**SIKKIM****GAZETTE****EXTRAORDINARY
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY****Gangtok****Friday 20th September, 2024****No. 440****GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM
HOME DEPARTMENT
GANGTOK****No. 73/Home/2024****Dated: 11/09/2024****NOTIFICATION**

Whereas, the State Government has deemed it expedient to constitute the "Sikkim Commission on Glacial Hazards" to address future glacial threats in the State;

And whereas, the State of Sikkim witnessed a massive Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF) on 3rd and 4th of October, 2023, which had caused widespread damage along the river Teesta. The accelerated rate of melting glaciers influenced by climate change has resulted in the formation of a large number of glacial lakes and many that are in the process of being formed. This has created an immense threat of glacial hazards in the State;

Now therefore, in order to address and mitigate future glacial threats in the State and in supersession of Notification No. 38/Home/2024 dated 20/04/2024, the State Government is hereby pleased to constitute the "Sikkim Commission on Glacial Hazards" comprising the following members, namely :-

1. Composition of Sikkim Commission on Glacial Hazards :-

Sl. No.	Name and designation	Proposed as
1.	Dr. Akhilesh Gupta, Former Senior Adviser & Head, Policy Coordination & Programme Management, Department of Science and Technology, Government of India	Chairman
2.	Professor (Dr.) Mahendra P. Lama, Former Economic Advisor to the Government of Sikkim	Member
3.	Prof. A. Ramsoo, Vice Chancellor, Islamic University of Science and Technology, Awantipore, Jammu and Kashmir, India	Member
4.	Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Professor & Dean, School of Earth Science, Department of Environmental Science, Central University of Rajasthan	Member

5.	Dr. Piyush Gourav, Sr. Consultant (GLOF and Urban Flood), National Disaster Management Authority	Member
6.	Dr. Ashim Sattar, Assistant Professor, School of Earth, Ocean & Climate Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology Bhuwaneshwar, Orissa	Member
7.	Dr. Kalachand Sain, Director, Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun	Member
8.	Dr Anil Kumar Gupta, Professor & Head Environment and Climate Disaster Risk Management, International Cooperation, Director of Projects & Center of Excellence, National Institute of Disaster Management, New Delhi	Member
9.	Principal Chief Conservator of Forest-cum-Secretary, Forest and Environment Department, Government of Sikkim	Member
10.	Secretary, Land Revenue and Disaster Management Department, Government of Sikkim	Member
11.	Secretary, Mines and Geology Department, Government of Sikkim.	Member
12.	Principal Chief Engineer-cum-Secretary, Water Resources Department, Government of Sikkim	Member
13.	Secretary, Science and Technology Department, Government of Sikkim	Member Secretary

2. Terms of Reference:

The terms of reference shall be as under:

- (1) (a) to review the current status of glacier and glacier lakes in Sikkim, to establish the link of climate change and global warming to glacier melt in Sikkim;
- (b) to identify the vulnerable glacial lakes in Sikkim in terms of glacial hazard;
- (c) to suggest the site specific best technical measures to minimize the glacial threat in the identified glacial lakes;
- (d) to suggest the special care of measures to follow during the mitigation measures especially during the engineering interventions at the lake and in the downstream areas;
- (e) to suggest the roles and responsibilities of the different stakeholders in terms of glacial hazards. If required, to suggest the formulation of specific task force to take up mitigation measures in the field level;
- (f) to provide policy prescriptions on a cross sectoral basis and inter disciplinary issues to the Government of Sikkim. These are essential to enhance the efficacy of operationalization of both the technical and scientific recommendation and also to assess and mobilize the institutional or resources support;
- (g) to suggest the State Government to tap national and international climate fund towards glacial threat mitigation measures as well as other climate hazards in Sikkim;
- (h) to suggest action required on human resources generation or capacity building towards the study and management of glacial threat and associated threats;

- (i) to review and monitor the progress made towards minimizing the glacial threat in the State;
- (j) to suggest any other specific measures to minimize the glacial threat in Sikkim.

(2) The Committee may, as and when required also consult leading experts or organizations.

(3). **Other Conditions :-**

- (a) The Chairman may co-opt any person for 1(one) or number of meetings to obtain the required technical and inter-disciplinary inputs for the benefit of the State.
- (b) The Committee shall submit its report within 1(one) year of the first meeting of the Committee or latest by February 2025.
- (c) The members of the Committee will be given the facilities and entitlements of the Departmental Guest.
- (d) The Committee will be assisted by the relevant officials or Departments in their various field studies or observations in Sikkim.

By order and in the name of the Governor.

V.B. Pathak, IAS
Chief Secretary
Government of Sikkim
File No. 2024/Loose

